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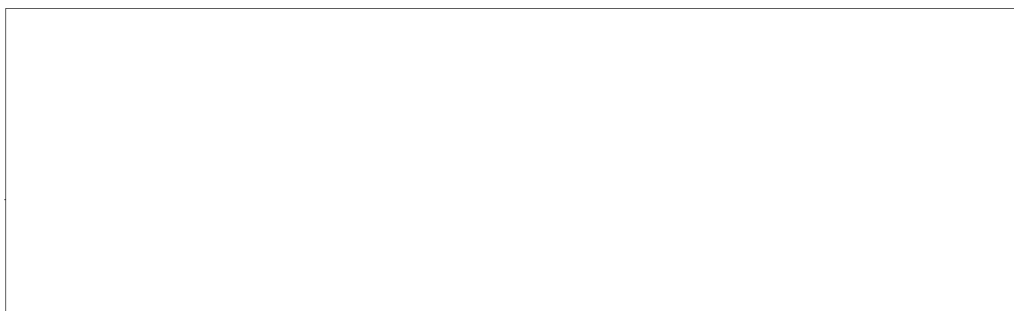
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~~TOP SECRET~~



~~TOP SECRET~~ [ ]

## CONTENTS

1. YUGOSLAVIA OPPOSES EXPANSION OF US MILITARY AID STAFF [ ] (page 3).
2. FRENCH WARN AGAINST ESTABLISHING FOREIGN EMBASSIES IN MOROCCO [ ] (page 4).
3. SOUTH KOREAN POLICE MAY MAKE MASS ARRESTS PRIOR TO PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS [ ] (page 5).
4. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR STRESSES TIMING IN ESTABLISHING TRADE MISSION IN PEIPING ( [ ] ) (page 6).
5. POLES REPORTEDLY TO BLAME KATYN MASSACRE ON STALIN [ ] (page 7).
6. USSR ENDORSES PROPOSAL FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN LAOS [ ] (page 8).

\* \* \* \*

THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION  
[ ] (page 9)

~~TOP SECRET~~ [ ]

# 1. YUGOSLAVIA OPPOSES EXPANSION OF US MILITARY AID STAFF



Yugoslav acting foreign secretary Prica told Ambassador Riddleberger on 5 May that his government at this time opposes any increase in the American Military Assistance Staff (AMAS) and the reopening of US-Yugoslav talks on future military aid.

In reply to Riddleberger's complaints over the difficulties to date in implementing the agreement reached last October between Deputy Under Secretary of State Murphy and Tito, Prica said that his government felt that the world situation has changed considerably. An enlargement of AMAS at this time, he said, would be tantamount to an undesirable "political manifestation" and contrary to Belgrade's policy of propagandizing nonmilitary co-operation.

Prica said that his government had not lost interest in military aid, but indicated that nothing could be done before Tito returned from his visit to Moscow in June.

Riddleberger concludes from his interview that the Yugoslavs are now willing to risk not honoring the October agreement in hopes that the United States will nonetheless complete the present military aid program.

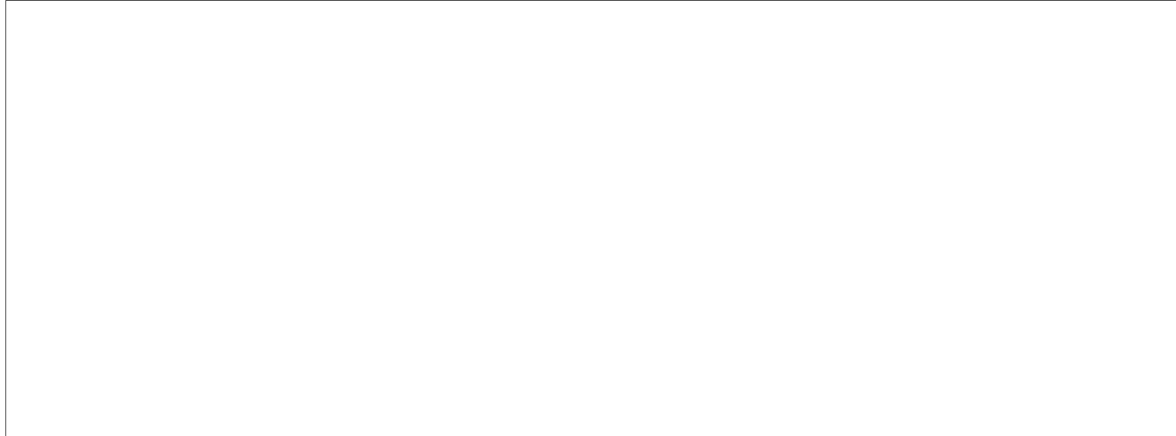
## Comment

The Yugoslavs probably feel that the question of American military aid will be raised in Moscow and new activity now would prove embarrassing to Tito's course of "detachment and active coexistence." Belgrade, however, has always been reluctant to permit Western activities to expand in Yugoslavia, particularly in the military sphere.

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## 2. FRENCH WARN AGAINST ESTABLISHING FOREIGN EMBASSIES IN MOROCCO



### Comment

France insists on maintaining the diplomatic status quo in Morocco until existing treaties have been formally abrogated by the French National Assembly.

Spain, which has been carrying on direct diplomatic negotiations with the Moroccan government and has consistently tried to improve its position in Morocco at French expense, seems ready to exchange ambassadors despite French objections.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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### 3. SOUTH KOREAN POLICE MAY MAKE MASS ARRESTS PRIOR TO PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

[redacted] if Liberal Party success in the vice-presidential race appears in doubt, the police plan to arrest certain opposition leaders. [redacted]

#### Comment

[redacted] opposition Democratic Party will not merge with the leftist Progressive Party to defeat Rhee, but will concentrate upon defeating President Rhee's running mate, Yi Ki-pung, for the vice presidency.

Observers in Seoul note that tension is rising, and that the populace anticipates the employment of violent measures to ensure the election of Yi Ki-pung.

[redacted]

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#### 4. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR STRESSES TIMING IN ESTABLISHING TRADE MISSION IN PEIPING

31/ [redacted] Japanese ambassador Tani in Washington advised his government [redacted] to wait and see "how the situation develops" in regard to the proposed establishment by France of a permanent trade mission in Communist China, before notifying the United States that Japan plans to do likewise. He suggested that the Hatoyama government should first tell Washington it is trying to resist popular pressure but may not be successful; and then, later, that "domestic conditions make it inevitable that we establish this agency."

[redacted] Foreign Minister Shigemitsu replied [redacted] that it would be tremendously difficult to restrain popular desire for a similar mission for any length of time, if the French were successful. He concurred in Tani's recommendation, however, since it involved only a question of timing.

#### Comment

Tokyo has moved cautiously on the question of relations with Communist China in an effort to make each step appear to be the result of domestic pressure. [redacted]

(Concurred in by ORR)

~~TOP SECRET~~

## 5. POLES REPORTEDLY TO BLAME KATYN MASSACRE ON STALIN

[REDACTED] A Polish journalist recently told a visiting American correspondent that high officials of the Polish United Workers (Communist) Party are considering the possibility of blaming Stalin for the Katyn Forest massacre of 10,000 Polish officers in 1941 and for not aiding the 1944 Warsaw uprising, according to the American embassy in Warsaw.

The embassy also stated that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] a joint Soviet-Polish commission is presently investigating the Katyn massacre; the "result" reportedly will be that Stalin and former Polish first secretary Bierut will be blamed for the crime.

**Comment** An admission that the USSR rather than Germany was responsible for the Katyn massacre probably would intensify Polish hatred of the Soviet Union. The present Polish regime may feel that in the long run, however, such an admission would convince the people that a real break has been made with the past.



## 6. USSR ENDORSES PROPOSAL FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN LAOS

The American embassy in London reports that Andrei Gromyko has criticized the Laotian government's use of force against the Pathet Lao and said that the Geneva co-chairmen should summon both parties to negotiate a political settlement in conformance with the 1954 armistice agreement.

Meanwhile, the influential crown prince of Laos has reiterated to the American chargé his concern over Viet Minh strength in the disputed provinces and requested a "firm" guarantee of Western military support in the event of "outside" aggression. The chargé comments that the prince may feel the only alternative is for Laos to turn toward neutralism.

### Comment

Gromyko's statement serves to put the Soviet Union on record in support of demands for negotiations advanced by Peiping, Hanoi and the Pathet Lao. The Communists have intimated that they would accept the Laotian government's sovereignty over the disputed provinces in return for a pledge of strict neutrality.

Although the Laotian government is conducting a fairly successful guerrilla war of attrition against the Pathet Lao, it is under internal pressure to seek a political settlement. In addition,

India is exerting strong pressure on Vientiane to renew negotiations with the Communists.

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## THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION (Information as of 1700, 8 May)

Secretary General Hammarskjold told American representatives to the United Nations on 7 May that he feels he has achieved a two to six months' respite from hostilities in the Middle East. Hammarskjold appears to be basically pessimistic; he does not care to return to the area and is opposed to a Security Council meeting on the Middle East. The secretary general advised a policy of "wait and see" and urged that the Western powers, and later the USSR, "in unilateral co-ordinated steps" exert diplomatic pressure on the countries concerned to resolve the remaining problems. These problems, which he said should be resolved in order, are the military concentrations in the El Auja-Sinai area, the Egyptian blockade of the Suez Canal, the "water problem," and the refugee problem. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Further incidents between Israel and the Arabs occurred late on 7 May. Israel charged that newly planted mines damaged two Israeli vehicles near the Gaza strip, and that Jordanians fired into the Israeli sector of Jerusalem. Egypt reported that an Israeli "armored force" crossed into Egyptian territory near Khan Yunis and held down an Egyptian patrol with automatic fire for a half hour. (Press)

France has agreed to send 12 more Mystere IV jet fighters to Israel and intends also to approve an Israeli request for 12 Mystere II's. [REDACTED]

Between 5 and 8 May, at least 11 transport aircraft flew from the Soviet Union via Plovdiv, Bulgaria, over Greek territory to Cairo. These apparently were some of the IL-14 twin piston-engined transports which Egypt is receiving under its arms deals with the Soviet bloc. The Greek government has given overflight permission to the government of Egypt for about 20 of these aircraft, which are to carry Egyptian markings and to be flown by Egyptian crews. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Press reports from Egypt had suggested that a military pact similar to that signed with Syria and Saudi Arabia had been signed. [REDACTED]